17. (New) The translucent screen according to claim 2, wherein the layer has a thickness that is no more than 20 percent of the total sheet element thickness.

18. (New) The translucent screen according to claim 2, wherein the layer has a thickness that is no more than 10 percent of the total sheet element thickness.

19. (New) The translucent screen according to claim 11, wherein the second sheet element contains refractive particles.

20. (New) The translucent screen according to claim 6, wherein substantially only the lens facets contain the first material.

REMARKS

In response to the above Office Action, claims 1-16 have been amended to remove preferable clauses, to avoid improper multiple dependency, for clarity, and generally to place the claims in more traditional U.S. format. No amendments have been made in view of the cited prior art. In light of the amendments to claims 2 and 11, withdrawal of the rejection under §112 and the objection under rule 75(c) is requested.

Applicant does not understand the objection to the specification because the title uses the term "comprising."

In the Office Action the Examiner rejected all of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) for being anticipated by WO 99/53376 to Yeo. This reference is effective as a prior art reference not under 102(e), but rather under 102(a) as of its publication date of October 21, 1999. The amendment to 35 U.S.C. §102(e) making published international applications available as a prior art reference under this section of the statute applies only to international applications filed on or after November 29, 2000.

This application is the national sage of International application No. PCT/DK00/00541 filed September 29, 2000 and claims priority of Danish application PA 1999 01387 filed September 29, 1999. A certified copy of the Danish application was filed in the international application. Enclosed is a verified English translation of the Danish application to perfect applicant's claim to priority.

Support for amended independent claim 1 can be found in claim 1 of the Danish application as well as in Figs. 3 and 6 and the corresponding parts of the description, in particular page 6, line 31 - page 8, line 16 and page 9, line 25 - page 10, line 28. Please note that the designation of "first" and "second" surface in the Danish application is opposite to that set forth in claim 1.

Support for amended independent claim 6 can be found in Figs. 3 and 6 and the corresponding parts of the description as noted above, as well as the description of the method of manufacture (page 13, line 22 - page 14, line 24) which results in a product as described in claim 6, see e.g., page 14, lines 20-22.

Support for amended independent method claim 12 can be found in claim 9 of the priority document as well as the description of the "first method" for the manufacture of a translucent screen on page 12, line 32 - page 13, line 20.

Support for amended independent method claim 14 can be found in claim 10 of the priority document as well as the description of the "second method" on page 13, line 22 - page 14, line 25.

Accordingly, it is believed claims 1-12 and 14-20 are entitled to an effective filing date in the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. §119 of September 29, 1999, the filing date of Danish application No. 1999 01387. Since this date is prior to the effective date of Yeo as a

prior art reference (i.e., October 21, 1999), its withdrawal as a ground of rejection of the claims is requested.

Regarding claim 13, this claim does not find literal support in the priority document. However, it relates to a method similar to that of claims 12 and 14 for the manufacture of a translucent screen with a Fresnel lens system. It like claims 12 and 14 is based on a mold having a negative relief of a lens system wherein a first material is distributed over the relief, the mold is closed and then a second material is charged to the mold.

On the other hand, the method of manufacturing a Fresnel sheet disclosed in Yeo appears to be based on forming and stretching a sheet of material and forming a Fresnel structure on one side of the sheet, e.g., by micro replication. (See page 6, line 19 - page 7, line 12). Accordingly, it does not appear claim 13 can be considered anticipated by Yeo.

It is believed claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 28, 2003

By: _____
Arthur S. Garrett
Reg. No. 20,338

563314_1.DOC

APPENDIX TO AMENDMENT OF JULY 28, 2003

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Amended) A translucent screen comprising a sheet element [(30) with] having a first surface [(31)] and a second surface [(32)] substantially parallel with the first surface, [wherein] the first surface [comprises] having a number of lens facets [(33)] that combine to form a lens system for paralleling diverging light beams [(L)] that enter into the sheet element from a surface, [wherein] the sheet element [comprises] comprising a matrix material [comprising a refractive agent in the form of] having refractive particles located therein, [where the] a refractive index [for] of the refractive particles [deviates] differing from [the] a refractive index [for] of the matrix material in which the refractive particles are located, and [wherein] the matrix material [forms] forming the first as well as the second surface of the sheet element, [characterised in that] wherein the lens facets [(33)] contain the refractive particles in a concentration that exceeds a concentration of refractive particles in that part of the sheet element that is located most proximate to the second surface.

2. (Amended) A translucent screen according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein that part of the sheet element that is outside the lens facets contains refractive particles in an even layer in that part of the sheet element that is most proximate to the lens facets, wherein said layer has a thickness that is no more than 50 percent of the total [screen thickness, preferably no more than 20 percent of the total

screen thickness, and most preferably no more than 10 percent of the total screen thickness] sheet element thickness, and wherein that part of the sheet element that is most proximate to the second surface contains substantially no refractive particles.

3. (Amended) A translucent screen according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein substantially only the lens facets contain refractive particles[;], and [that] that part of the sheet element [tha ticles; and that that part of the sheet element] that is outside the lens facets contains substantially no refractive particles.

4. (Amended) A translucent screen according to any one of claims 1-3, [characterised in that] wherein the refractive particles are evenly distributed in each lens facet.

5. (Amended) A translucent screen according to any one of claims 1-3, [characterised in that] wherein the refractive particles are distributed in the lens facets with a highest concentration [corresponding to the] thereof being in tips of the lens facets.

6. (Amended) A translucent screen comprising a sheet element [(30) with] having a first surface [(31)] and a second surface [(32)] substantially parallel with the first surface, [wherein] the first surface [comprises] having a number of lens facets [(33)] that combine to form a lens system for paralleling diverging light beams [(L)] that enter into the sheet element from a surface[; wherein], the sheet element [comprises] comprising first and second materials, the first material providing the first surface of the sheet element having the lens facets and having refractive particles located therein and being a matrix material[, wherein the first material is located substantially corresponding to the lens facets], and [wherein] the second material [forms] forming a coherent layer

parallel with the plane of the lens facets and providing the second surface of the sheet element, [characterised in that]

[the lens facets contain refractive particles] wherein [the] a refractive index [for] of the refractive particles [deviates] differs from [the] a refractive index [for] of the matrix material in which the refractive particles are located.

7. (Amended) A translucent screen according to claim 6, [characterised in that] wherein the refractive particles are evenly distributed in each lens facet.

8. (Amended) A translucent screen according to claim 6, [characterised in that] wherein the refractive particles are distributed in the lens facets with a highest concentration [corresponding to the] thereof being in tips of the lens facets.

9. (Amended) A translucent screen according to any one of claims 6 through 8, [characterised in that] wherein the second material constitutes an extruded plate.

10. (Amended) A translucent screen according to claim 9, [characterised in that] wherein the extruded plate is coated with or [comprises] contains one or more materials selected from the group consisting of light-diffusing agents, light-absorbing agents [or] and contrast-increasing agents.

11. (Amended) A translucent screen according to [any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that] claim 1 or 6, wherein the screen [comprises] includes a second sheet element arranged parallel with [the screen, and wherein the second sheet element preferably comprises refractive particles] said sheet element.

12. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a translucent screen [(40a, 40c) of the type that comprises] having a sheet element with a first surface and a second surface substantially parallel with the first surface, [wherein] the first surface [comprises]

having a number of lens facets [(41a, 41c)] that combine to form a lens system for paralleling diverging light beams [(L)] that enter into the sheet element, [and wherein] the method [is characterised in] comprising the steps of:

- providing a substantially closed mould with a negative relief of a lens system;
- positioning the mould substantially horizontally;
- providing a translucent, fluid and curable matrix material, with which is admixed a light-diffusing, granular agent with a refractive index different from the matrix material and with a density that exceeds that of the matrix material;
- charging the mould with the matrix material admixed with the light-diffusing granular agent;
- allowing the light-diffusing agent to sediment towards the negative relief of the mould, such that the concentration of the light-diffusing granular agent is higher in that part of the matrix material that is located most proximate to the negative relief of the mould;
- curing the matrix material; and
- removing the cured [screen] sheet element from the mould.

13. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a translucent screen [(40b) of the type that comprises] having a sheet element with a first surface and a second surface substantially parallel with the first surface, [wherein] the first surface [comprises] having a number of lens facets [(41b)] that combine to form a lens system for paralleling

diverging light beams that enter into the sheet element[; and wherein], the method [is characterised in] comprising the steps of:

- providing a substantially closable mould with a negative relief of a lens system;
- positioning the mould substantially horizontally;
- providing a translucent, fluid and curable first matrix material, with which is admixed a light-diffusing granular agent with a refractive index different from the matrix material and with a density that exceeds that of the matrix material;
- distributing the matrix material across the negative relief such that it is limited essentially to [the] indentations of the relief;
- closing the mould;
- charging the mould with a second material that can be different from or identical with the first matrix material and wherein the second material can be admixed with a light-diffusing granular agent;
- allowing the light-diffusing granular agent to sediment towards the negative relief of the mould, such that the concentration of the light-diffusing granular agent is higher in that part of the first matrix material that is located most proximate to the negative relief of the mould;
- curing the first matrix material; and
- removing the cured [screen] sheet element from the mould.

14. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a translucent screen [of the type that comprises] having a sheet element with a first surface and a second surface

substantially parallel with the first surface, [wherein] the first surface [comprises] having a number of lens facets [(51a, 51b, 51c)] that combine to form a lens system for paralleling diverging light beams that enter into the sheet element, [and wherein] the method [is characterised in] comprising the steps of:

- providing a substantially closed mould with a negative relief of a lens system;
- positioning the mould with the negative relief facing upwards[, preferably substantially horizontally];
- providing a translucent, fluid and curable matrix material, with which is admixed a light-diffusing granular agent with a refractive index different from the matrix material [that exceeds that of the matrix material];
- distributing the matrix material admixed with the light-diffusing granular material across the negative relief of the mould[, preferably only on a portion thereof];
- providing a [sheet element (50a, 50b, 50c) with] second material having a first surface and a second surface substantially parallel with the first surface;
- positioning the [sheet element] second material with the first surface towards the negative relief of the mould on which the matrix material admixed with the light-diffusing granular agent is distributed;
- pressing the [sheet element] second material downwards against the negative relief of the mould such that the matrix material admixed with the light-diffusing granular agent is distributed across the negative relief of the

mould, [preferably such that] and the [sheet element] second material essentially abuts [on] the negative relief throughout the entire, first surface of the [sheet element] second material;

- curing the matrix material; and
- removing the cured [screen] sheet element from the mould.

15. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a translucent screen according to claim 14, [characterised in that] wherein the [sheet element] second material is coated with or comprises one or more materials [(52c)] selected from the group consisting of light-diffusing agents, light-absorbing agents [or] and contrast-increasing agents.

16. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a translucent screen according to claim 15, [characterised in that] wherein the [sheet element] second material contains a light-diffusing agent.